

• Abroad •

Havana, Cuba. "Collaboration" with the Batista government is being interpreted to include any candidacy for any sort of public office or any business transaction with the government. "Denunciation" is usually accepted as sufficient proof. Whether or not the owners are shot, the goods of the "collaborators" are confiscated. Hence a juicy racket: blackmailing businessmen, professionals and anyone owning property with the threat of denunciation. This becomes another blow at the paralyzed economy, in which only the black market flourishes. Kenneth de Courcy's *Intelligence Digest*, with a good record for accuracy in factual reports, states that as of the end of April the actual number of executions had reached nearly 4,000; more than 300 police officials had been castrated; many young daughters of army and police personnel had been turned over to Castro units to be used as military whores. Meanwhile Alberto Bayo, the GPU-trained Spanish Civil War general who instructed the Castro cadres in guerrilla fighting while they were living near Mexico City, is reported to be turning his attention to operations in northern Spain as well as the further revolutionary struggle in the Caribbean.

Buenos Aires, Argentina. President Arturo Frondizi was elected in February 1958 by a coalition that included the Communists. He is now engaged in what seems to be a battle to political—and, as things go in Latin America, quite possibly physical—death against a united front of Communists and Peronistas. The attempted revolutionary strikes of last November-December, the espionage conducted from the Soviet Embassy, and the proofs that Moscow was pouring money and agents into Argentina, have apparently convinced him that there must be a showdown. He broke the strike by calling out the military. He expelled the most compromised of the Soviet diplomats.

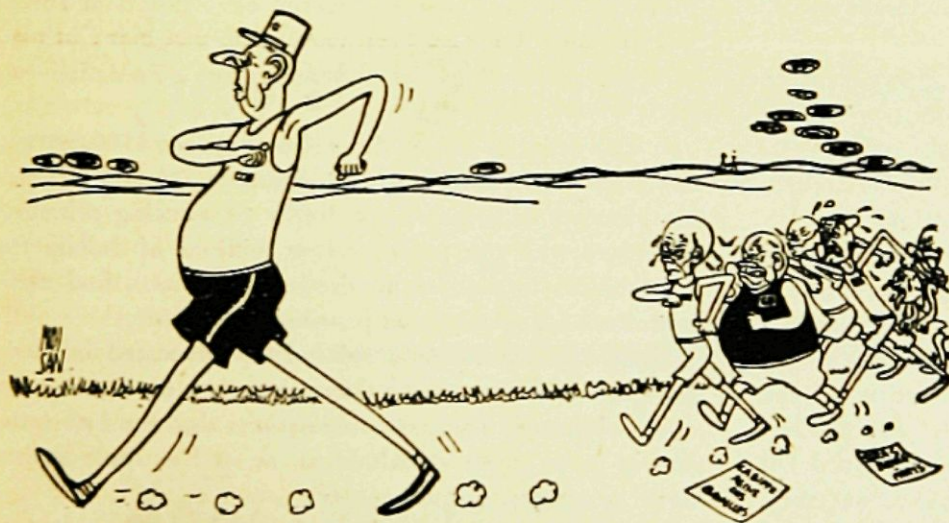
And he has stated his wish to outlaw the Communist Party. Unfortunately, the disintegrated political life and shattered economy inherited as legacy from the Perón regime make reconstruction a task of more than heroic size.

Dover, England. The newly re-formed Channel Tunnel Company, in which the old Suez Canal Company is a partner, believes that the century-old project for a cross-Channel tunnel may become reality within the next decade. For technical reasons (ventilation, psychological tension in driving thirty miles through a sealed cylinder), an auto-truck tube has been ruled out in favor of a double railway tunnel. Studies indicate that this is now feasible from an engineering and fiscal standpoint, and waits only a political green light from London and Paris.

Johannesburg, Union of South Africa. Mrs. Adelaide Young, a seventy-four-year-old widow who confesses she "was never keen on traveling and has never been outside South Africa before," recently set forth on a European tour as first phase of many long travels that lie ahead. Her old neighbor, Mr. Francis Melville, himself a great traveler in his day, left her 6,000 pounds on condition that it all must be spent on travel within a ten-year period. And to make sure she could not refuse, the sum will otherwise revert to the Nationalist Party—which, Mrs. Young primly explained as she mounted the gangway of the *Pretoria Castle*, bound for Southampton, "I do not like, as he well knew."

Singapore. Lee Kuan Yew—clever, personable, Cambridge-educated, far Left but not quite Communist—now heads the first government of the 224 square mile island-State of Singapore. His People's Action Party, supported by the Communists, last month won 43 of 51 legislative seats. Of Singapore's 1,550,000 inhabitants (increasing 50,000 yearly), 1,180,000 are Chinese. Unlike Hong Kong, Singapore has little industry. Its economic base is the British naval station, employing 45,000, plus the shipping, banking, insurance, and other typical activities of a major entrepot. But some of these have already shifted to the Malaysian capital of Kuala Lumpur, and many others will not long remain if the Communists control the direction of Mr. Lee's policies as they did of his campaign rhetoric. Even the naval station may be shut down, as was Ceylon's Trincomalee. Lee realizes that the only solution for Singapore is union with the Federation of Malaya, just across the short causeway. But the anti-Communist Malayan government, observing Lee's links to the Communists and the heavy ratio of Chinese, shows no eagerness for the wedding. Economic and social circumstance will not give Lee much time for decision: either break with the Communists, or capitulate to them.

LEFT, RIGHT! LEFT, RIGHT!
Or, An Entry in the World Walking Championship



Le Canard Enchaîné

"Among the nations of the world, our place is in the lead." (de Gaulle)

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